



Roaring 40's December 2022

Official publication for Apex 40 Australia Inc.
Apex 40 Australia Inc. is the recognized body of affiliated past
Apexians groups



About Us.

For Continuing Fellowship

Apex 40 Australia Inc. is not a Service Club, but an organisation formed to foster fellowship among past Apexians and their partners, and to retain the many friendships formed during their Apex years.

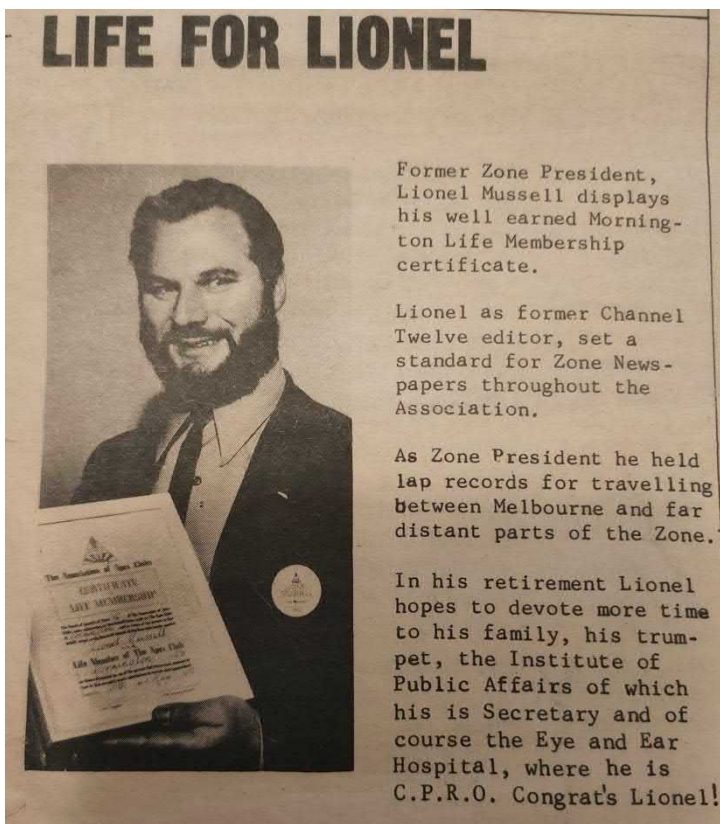
It also exists to assist Apex, when asked, and not to operate in opposition to Apex. It is open to past members and their partners, and Ex-World Councillors who have retired from their respective organisations.

Some Apex 40 members decided to form sub-committees which are generally based around past or present Apex Club locations. These sub-committees may meet monthly or less regularly, but all with a view to maintaining and fostering friendships, and occasionally providing assistance to Apex Clubs.

Each year members from Apex 40 gather for a weekend to attend the Annual Convention known as 'The Rort'. During this weekend there is a brief interruption to the festivities to conduct the necessary formality of The Annual General Meeting. In the past, after the RORT, a Post-RORT tour of 4 or 5 days duration has been programmed, visiting areas surrounding the town hosting The Rort. In future both events may be combined and shortened to reduce costs.

The socialising of individual members with each other, across the whole organisation, never ceases. When on an interstate holiday, for example, members invariably look up acquaintances and friends made during the Rorts. It is a huge social club, and fosters friendships among whole families.

Membership is open to all past members of Apex, their partners and members of affiliated clubs.



VP Julie Primmer posted on the Apex 40 Facebook group the newspaper clipping opposite regarding one of our founders and reproduced here for those who missed it:-

“I have been going through boxes of papers given to the Historical Society, which had belonged to Apex Club of Red Cliffs. Look what I found Lionel Mussell! What happened to the trumpet?”

27th. October



President's Report.
Mark Tramby. XEPA. Qld.

Greetings to members across Australia

I'm pleased to report that everything is bubbling along as normal for your organisation.

Next year's Rort has around 120 registrations, but we can take a few more so check out the details on the website where you can book online. It's going to be a fabulous week and a big thank you to Robyn, Leon and the Great 8 team for their efforts to date.

I have mentioned this before but it's great to see a brand new sub committee (group) up and running in Ipswich Apex 40, I attended their inaugural meeting but they have had a subsequent meeting and decided to meet 4 times per annum. And a couple from the group have booked into next year's Rort which is fabulous to see.

I am endeavouring to try and get to visit as many groups as possible during my two-year tenure so please make sure you copy me in on your newsletter at president@apex40.com so I can do my planning. It's impossible for me to get to every single group but keep me in the loop just in case.

Planning is well under way for the 2024 Rort which will be at the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. Due to no group putting their hands up to organise this it's being done by the National Board.

Thank you to all who are contributing to our Facebook group (it's growing slowly and we are seeing many more photos these days), it's just one of the ways we communicate but is by far the most visual of them all. If you haven't joined the group please do so today, it's a private group meaning everything put on it isn't seen other than by the members.

As this is being released just before Christmas it's timely that I take this opportunity to wish all members a very happy and safe Christmas and I do hope you get enjoy some time with your families, as will Rosemary & I for the first time since the start of the Covid outbreak.

Yours in Apex 40

Mark Tramby
National President



Vice President's Report.
Julie Primmer. Sunraysia. V.

As Christmas approaches, we are all becoming busier than usual with life getting back to a form of 'normal'. It is wonderful to see the photos on Facebook of the Christmas gatherings taking place and to see distant friends in these photos. It was good to see a membership form being handed out to an ex Apex member, in the Lions Club catering group at our Christmas breakfast a couple of weeks ago.

Even better that he first asked how to join us!

My approach to Christmas has been a bit different this year as I had my second hip replacement 4 weeks ago, so now I have to do a catch up. All is going well; I have been driving for nearly 2 weeks, doing the required exercises and off to my first time back at hydro-therapy today. Due to this surgery, I was disappointed to not be able to go to Noumea for their celebrations, but I am sure that Gayl and David, and our New Zealand members represented us very adequately.

In closing I wish all our members a wonderful Christmas and a better new year than last year.

Julie



Secretary's Report
Col Ramsay. Wynnum Manly. Q.

From the Secretarial desk;

The Hunter Rort is fast approaching and our Treasurer Keith is looking for money to help balance his financials. Don't be surprised if an email arrives reminding you of your balance.

Robyn and her team are checking the finer details to ensure that we all have a GREAT experience at the Rort.

We have had another two cancellations and there are now a few vacancies, so if you are considering attending, NOW is the time to register.

Just log onto:

<http://apex40.com/>

or

http://apex40.com/2023_LakeMacquarie.php

and follow the prompts.

While we are on financial, a timely reminder to all Secretaries and MAL members that the annual membership fees (\$7.50pp) to the National Body is due in January so please forward your monies as soon as practical.

Please forward to me, secretary@apex40.com, membership records when you pay the fees as this helps me keep the National Register up to date. A number of members are changing their internet providers and or their email address, so please, if you do change things, send me your new email address to ensure that you get the latest news from Apex 40.

The 2024 Rort is being put together by the National Board with lots of help from members. Research is ongoing and it is expected that the venue will be on the Sunshine Coast of Queensland, between Caloundra and Noosa and in the surrounding area. More on this as it comes to hand via our Newsletter and the Roaring 40's.

Members will be presented with the proposed program and costs at the Hunter Rort.

To all, Merry Christmas and a very Safe, Healthy and Happy New Year!!

YIA40,

Col Ramsay (Wynnum Manly)



Treasurer's Report.
Keith Miller. Nepean. N.S.W.

Members, Members at Large (MAL's) and Sub-Committee secretaries are reminded that our annual Apex 40 Australia Inc. membership fees are coming up for renewal. Invoices will be issued in December 2022 (subject to confirmation of numbers with our National Secretary, Col Ramsay), and are due for payment by 31st January 2023.

The fee per member is being retained at \$7.50 per member again this year.

Early payment would be appreciated so that I can get the financials for the year finalised and sent to the Auditor enabling me to presentation audited financials at the AGM.

There are still a couple of members who have registered to attend the 2023 Lake Macquarie RORT (Swansea, NSW) who have not paid their \$200 deposit. Full payment for the 2023 RORT is required by 30th March 2023 and reminder Invoices will be emailed in the New Year. We currently have 130 registrations for the Lake Macquarie RORT.

Keith Miller

National Treasurer 2022/2023

treasurer@apex40.com



International Relations.
Gayl McKay. Alstonville. N.S.W.

Congratulations to Club 41 New Caledonia on the charter of their second club in October. David and I, representing Apex 40 Australia, were included in their celebrations along with approximately 20 representatives from regional Clubs 41 all over France and 6 representatives from Upper Hutt, New Zealand.

The formal Charter ceremony was held at the Noumea Town Hall. It was very impressive with official Recognition of Charter conducted by the President of Club 41, France. That formality was followed by a lovely warm ceremony of introduction, presentation and some personal background of every new member. There were banner presentations and lots of speeches by each France Club 41 and New Zealand Club 41, and Apex 40 Australia. Noumea's Deputy Mayor took part in a Kanak Welcome to Country style celebration and gave an eloquent speech. Cheekily, he even asked if the Club 41 NC would talk to him later about joining; he was so impressed with their enthusiasm. It was a very formal ceremony by our standards, with gold chain regalia on view at every turn. There was a great sense of occasion.

The Charter involved a week of celebrations with all the guests from France, NZ and us. The hospitality of the Noumeans was magnificent. We were shown some of the country's tourist high points. Beautiful beaches, sand laced islands, coral atolls and vivid coloured sea creatures; those we expected. What we had not expected were the wonderfully preserved historic buildings such as Chateau Hagan, the rugged southern mountains rich with nickel deposits, National Parks, Kanak homelands and the amazing architecture of the Tjibaou Cultural Centre.

This centre alone was worth a visit to Noumea. It was designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano. Through its name it honours a Kanak loyalist and pays tribute to New Caledonia's Kanak culture and history. The Centre, which references the traditional chieftain houses of New Caledonia, has 7 circular buildings made with untreated timber fashioned with huge open walls designed to capture the breeze. It is very striking. The Tjibaou Cultural Centre houses a significant collection of Sout Sea Island art works, particularly dramatic wooden sculptures, a library and interpretive centres within the buildings.

We spent one particularly lovely day visiting the island of Amedee where Le Phare Amedee (Amedee lighthouse) is situated. The mood was set as the day started with a Ukulele band "piping" us on to the boat for a short cruise to the island. We spent the day swimming, snorkelling and learning about the local

environment and culture. We had a trip on a glass bottomed boat to view the coloured tropical fish on the coral. We were given an amazing Melanesian ‘taste- fest’ for lunch and a fast-paced Polynesian dancing display. Lots found time for a nap in the balmy breeze under the palm trees on numerous deck chairs put there for the purpose. It was completely relaxing.

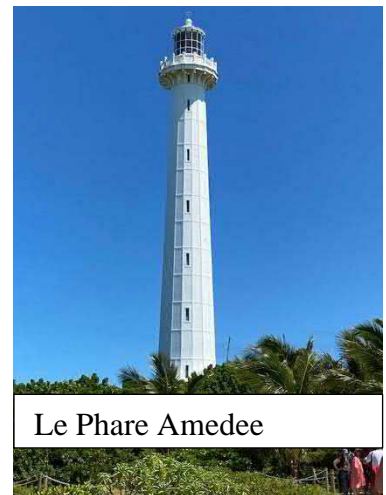
Most of us took the opportunity to climb the 257 steps to the top of the light house and to marvel at its construction. One needed quite a lot of time to stop and admire the building techniques to ensure one got to the top. There were a lot of steps. The view from the top – or however far one got- was stunning. The main island was visible and an almost transparent sea revealed the atoll surrounding it as a bulwark against the Pacific.

The lighthouse was designed by the Eiffel group – yes, that Eiffel- and is made of steel rivetted together – just like the tower. Its construction in 1865 was part prefab, part on-site welding and riveting. Like most lighthouses, it is a thing of beauty, especially when its beam shone over the lagoon at night to our hotel balcony miles away.

Gayl McKay, IRO, Alstonville



Gayle exchanging banners with Club 41



Le Phare Amedee



Webmaster.
Ken Wright. Nepean Valley. N.S.W.

It's been an in-active Apex 40 year for me as firstly we had the RORT in Darwin with an extended Holiday around it and then Janice and I went overseas on a very delayed holiday due to Covert. So, in short it is difficult to provide you with anything but –
Janice and I would like to wish everybody a Merry Christmas and a happy 2023.

Kindest regards
Ken Wright



Newsletter Editor.
Bill Cramp. Redlands. Q.

Sub-committee meetings are returning to normal conditions and the flow of reports improving. Please, no more viruses, floods, drought or fires! Much of our up-to-date information is being posted to the Apex 40 Facebook group, which is private to our members, and you cannot access this without being accepted by one of our administrators. This keeps you current with what is happening in the association.

As editor of this quarterly publication, I still need to receive copies of any sub-committee newsletters to my email at roaring@apex40.com and occasionally a report on what is happening with the group. We don't need to be Shakespeare to pen a couple of paragraphs and include up to half a dozen photos. Emailed notices of the next meeting would also help. You could be surprised by a visit from one of the committee on our pilgrimages around this land!

Thank you to the contributors to this and previous newsletters throughout the year for your continued support. Also, the continued backup of the current committee members for their prompt and informative reports has made this position satisfying.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to every member. Val and I look forward to catching up with the Rorters at Lake Macquarie in May and trust the Covid menace is absent.

Bill Cramp.
Ed.



Membersip.
Col Gifford. XEPA. Q.

Hoping this finds you all well and if you are like me looking forward to some warmer weather.

Not a great deal to report but I must say it was great to see our Ipswich club holding their second function and setting dates for next year's functions.

When looking back at just how strong Apex Australia was in the 1990's there must be a lot of ex Apexians out there who just like me had never heard of Apex 40.

As an example, Carole and I were sitting in a pub down in Adelaide just recently and were talking to a couple on the next table. They were around the same age as us and I asked the man whether he was ever in Apex. His reply was yes and I asked had he heard of Apex 40 to which he replied no.

We talked about Apex 40 and what we do and he was very interested and said he would talk to some of his old Apex mates about it. We swapped details and I said I would get back in touch in the New Year. I guess the morale is not to be backward in talking about our club.

Carole and I wish all of you a great Christmas and all the best for the New Year. We look forward to catching up with some of you at the Rort

If you have any membership enquiries, please don't hesitate to call me on 0401097322.

Keep well everyone
Yours in Apex 40
Col Gifford
Membership

Taste of the Hunter' 2023

RORT NUMBERS have been capped at 140 people. This is to accommodate Transport issues.

Transport/Buses:

Coaches will pick up in the Caravan Park or at the Motel for each day's outings at designated times. Times will vary each day but there are no 'early starts'. We have planned a relaxed RORT for you to have time to share breaky/coffee with fellow RORT'ers at the camp kitchen or have a morning walk/ride/paddle lakeside if that is what you would like to do. Likewise, apart from one day, you will have time for a 'siesta' before Happy Hour if you choose to do so. There will also be 'coffee/breakfast vans' at the park so that if you are into that 'special coffee' or don't want to provide your own, Breakfast it will be available (at your cost).

There will be two 54-seater coaches, and a small bus to cater to the extra numbers. On two days there will be choices of tours, *please submit your choices in response to an email coming from Secretary Col, to all registered Rorters, promptly, so that we can gauge your interest and arrange with hosts accordingly.*

We will have committee members as bus monitors on each bus each day for your convenience, to ensure people are where they are supposed to be, and no one is 'left' behind. We would appreciate if you would keep your eye on the time, so we run 'to time'.

The small bus will provide transport to and from the alternate accommodation venues in the evening. As this bus will be driven by volunteers, *if we have any qualified drivers attending and you would like to volunteer for a day/evening, I'm sure Leon and David will be pleased to hear from you.*

Day Tours: Monday Morning - Alternate Tour Choice

1. Bus Tour - Port Waratah Coal Services: *You will need to complete a Covid declaration 24 hrs. before entering this facility. Masks may be required, please be prepared. We will be advised closer to the date. Please ensure you have a photographic ID on you for this tour to meet with their Border Security obligations. The standard tour lasts approximately 1.5 hrs.*

Port Waratah has been part of Newcastle and the Hunter region for over 45 years, connecting the Hunter Valley Coal Chain to the world, playing an active part in the local community and advocating for the region. Their purpose is to deliver a high-quality, cost-effective service to customers, which meets the need for reliable access to contracted terminal capacity. PWCS have approximately 330 employees working across their business, operating at Carrington and Kooragang terminals 24 hours per day, 7 days a week.

OR

2. Newcastle Christ Church Cathedral:

Christ Church Cathedral stands proudly over the city, and parts of the current building date back to 1868. As well as being a beautiful building, known as one of Australia's, most imposing, it often houses live music performances alongside regular church services. You may climb the narrow 165 step tower for a 360-degree view across the city, harbour and coast, (Cost \$10). The Cathedral also houses Newcastle's principal war memorial and memorabilia. Be amazed by the pre-Raphaelite stained-glass windows, and/or wander the Memorial gardens.

This tour will be within the Cathedral proper, commencing with the Dean of Newcastle welcoming us and giving an overview of the Church and its history. We will then break into smaller groups and given a tour of the significant artefacts of the Cathedral, its vestries and chapels.

We will all meet at lunch time to enjoy the Firing of the Guns at Fort Scratchley and then continue our tour together.

TUESDAY: Alternate Tour Choice

After an early BBQ lunch at Tocal Agricultural College's 1867's Blackett Barn.

We break into two groups:

1. A guided bus tour of the Agricultural College, its workings, history, it's methods and *be in time for milking!*

A leader in full and part time agricultural courses, and owned by the C.B. Alexander Foundation, The Dept of Primary Industries CB Alexander Campus offers industry relevant skills and experience in general agriculture, beef cattle, dairying, rural business management, sheep production, cropping and conservation. The property is listed on the NSW Heritage Register and holds significant local history, dating back to 1818.

OR

2. Enjoy a guided tour of Historical Tocal Homestead, hear about its history and stories of the past. A picturesque, rustic setting that is one of the 'classic' houses of its time. Originally built in 1845 it was most recently inhabited by 2 spinster sisters, Marguerita and Myrtle, from 1947 to 1985. They died 5 days apart, both in their late '90s. Enjoy the old picturesque fig trees in the garden and travel back to a time gone by.

We will then travel on to the 'Vibrant City of Maitland' to enjoy afternoon tea at The Old Police Barracks with the Maitland & Beyond Family History Group.

Here we will experience the life and times of inmates or Women Convicts.

Alternate Tour Choice -

1. **Female Convict Bonnets Project: (small group only)** The Female Convict Bonnets Project is part of a wider project, seen in places like the Women's Convict Prison in Port Arthur, Tasmania, as well as locally. Representing the 1600+ Women Convicts who were sent to the Hunter Valley, this project is a memorial to each of those women. A 1 hr talk by the co-ordinator of the Maitland Group will include a display these bonnets.
2. **Tour of the Maitland Gaol:** we unlock the gates on the life and times of some of the most notorious convicts, including Neddy Smith, the Murphy Bros, Darcy Dugan and Ivan Milat (watch your fingers!) Opening in 1848 and built of local sandstone it was the longest continuously operating correctional centre in Australia. IT closed in Jan 1998 as security did not meet community expectations. Conditions were harsh and considered unsuitable for the times, and costs were becoming prohibitive.

To lighten the venue's dark past, we will enjoy the 'forbidden vice' of wine tasting by a local grower 'Tranquility Vale' before getting back to basics with soup and damper for dinner by 'Bread and Water'. Wine will be available for purchase on the evening, soft drinks available from Bread and Water at your cost). We will then return to our 'lodgings' for the night.

Around the Sub-Committees

New South Wales

Alstonville

740 kms north of Sydney

October meeting was again at the Ballina RSL



The Federal at Alstonville proved an excellent venue, for the November meeting with 20 members attending.



Byron Bay 760 kms north of Sydney

Blue Mountains Crest

100 kms west of Sydney

Well, we finally had our trip on the Nepean Belle! It must have been a great relief to Elizabeth, and we all enjoyed ourselves, thanks Elizabeth.

Our yearly lunch and Melbourne Cup sweep at Bronwyn's was, as usual, a lot of fun and the food was delicious, thank you so much Bronwyn.

The trip to Orange went off as planned, with a lot of fun trying on clothes.... some of us even bought a few things! Lunch at Lord Anson's was enjoyable as usual, and I'm sure we will be planning another trip maybe next year!

Looking forward to our Christmas lunch at Madam Wangs, Leura on the 11th.



Great 8 Hunter Valley

170 kms north of Sydney

What a beautiful day for Great 8's picnic lunch in sunny Fingal Bay. Lots of interesting conversations, history of Barry Park, stories of Donald MacKay, magpies seemed to enjoy the company and we even crashed a wedding! Thanks for organising Leon and Cheryle. Attendance by the Thorley's, Squires, Andrew and Jan, Blacks, and Sue Chapman.



Inverell

560 kms northwest of Sydney

Inverell Apex 40 members enjoyed their Christmas party at the Aussie Hotel on Wednesday evening (30th Nov).



Leeton

590 kms southwest of Sydney



Hello All,

Quick report on Leeton happenings. The Club still meets on an ad hoc basis which is approximately 4 times a year, with no fixed interval. Mid July we gathered one Sunday morning and had an informative tour through the Almond processing plant, Almondco, which is managed by our capable Apex 40 member Richard Gale. The tour went just over an hour, and we had morning tea hosted by Richards's wife Jo. The outing was well attended with some 25 present. After the tour we all drove back to Yanco pub for a nice

meal and were entertained by a jazz band.

Our next trip was a day excursion to Albury first to view the Hume Dam spilling, from there we drove up to Dartmouth dam near Mitta Mitta (another pub lunch) to view the spectacular spill from this dam which had not occurred in the last 26 years. Mid November saw 16 members gather at the Historic Hydro Motor Inn for our Christmas get together which was an enjoyable and excellent meal!

One of our members had to vacate his house because of floods in the Murrumbidgee River with water just getting into his back veranda. We are pleased to report he is back home now.

Wishing all Apex 40 members a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you all in May 2023 if not before.

Mark Carter

Lismore

745 kms north of Sydney

It's been a tumultuous year for the Lismore Apex 40 Club. We started the year off with the floods and even though none of our members' homes were affected, many had their business or places they work at devastated by the floods. Ten months on, there are green shoots of a recovery, although the Lismore CBD and surrounding towns along the river are still devastated and have a long way to go. The support received for those effected by the flood has been very welcomed.

In June we lost one of our founding Members, Jill Denmead who passed away.

Jill is survived by her husband Paul and their two sons. Jill was a lovely lady with a caring and vibrant personality, who is missed by all members of the club.

Between rain and more rain, we had to change and cancel some events during the year, at times we didn't think it was ever going to stop raining, but we managed to fit in a Bare Foot Bowls day at the Lennox Head Bowls club in October, it was a great day attended by everyone, a very sociable day with drinks before, during and after, followed by Dinner at the Club, where members could continue to catch up and unwind. a very enjoyable day, the weather was perfect which made it an even more enjoyable afternoon.

To finish the year off, we have enjoyed a very nice Christmas Lunch at the "Cove" Restaurant in Ballina, of course it was raining again, but it didn't matter as we were all inside and having such a good time with Member Steve putting us through our paces with some Trivia questions on the Christmas Carols, I must admit we didn't do very well and it took a lot of encouragement to get the correct answer. A great night had by everyone.

Until next year, the Lismore Apex 40 would like to wish our Apex 40 Family all the best for Christmas and hope everyone has a terrific time celebrating with family and friends. Merry Christmas !

Kevin Poole

President

Lismore Apex 40

Some of the Lismore photos taken of the barefoot bowls day and their Christmas function. Great to see them out and about after such a disastrous year.



Manly

15 kms east of Sydney.

Moree

640 kms northwest of Sydney.

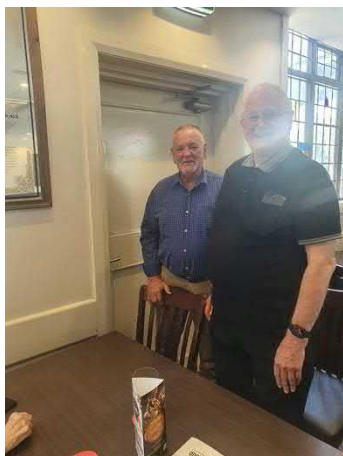
The Dawson's report there are only 2 couples in Moree at the moment and nothing is happening.

Nepean Valley

60 kms west of Sydney

Apex 40 Nepean Valley had another great Apex 40 luncheon 30th October, this time at O'Donoghues Irish Pub Emu Plains. So good to see everybody again.

Victor Ashby & Peter Campbell travelled down from Lake Macquarie. Joyce L-b & Margaret Barnier joined us for their first outing following their recent ill health. LM's Laurie Turnbull, Ernie Campbell & Neville Barnier also joined us. Next event is our Christmas get together Sunday 18th December at a venue to be confirmed





Wyong

100 kms north of Sydney

Alicia (Lea) Dumpleton 12th March 1941 - 26th November 2022



- Born to Colin and Milford Machon at Willoughby

Survived by;

- Husband, Thomas (Tom) of 63 years.
- Children, Steven, Kevin, Garry and Kerrie.
- Grandchildren, Matthew, Michael, Elise, Mark, Kimberly, Natasha, Alicia and Robert.
- And dozens of children that Lea babysat for many years that were all happy to call her grandma.

In Tom's words at the service, "When we moved to Umina in 1962, we knew no one. Then I joined Woy Woy Apex Club, and we found

we had sixty new friends. And over the years thousands more, all over the world."

From that time till now Apex played a big part in their lives, with many Apex 40 members demonstrating their friendship attending the service and kind words of support from many others.



Taken at a recent Wyong luncheon with no further details known.

Victoria

Bendigo

153 kms north of Melbourne Twenty

Bendigo Apex 40 members enjoyed a three-course lunch at Lakeside hotel on Friday 2nd with lots of friendly chatting taking place.



Dandenong Valley Geelong

35 kms south of Melbourne

73 kms southwest of Melbourne

Melbourne-Gippsland

40 kms east of Melbourne

Dinner Number 283 in September was held at the Dandenong Club. These photos were taken at that meeting.

The Christmas meeting was also at the Dandenong Club on 29th November. Some photos were taken, but these earlier ones are better.

After all these years as the first Apex 40 club we are down to 21 members from the early days when we were over the 100. We now meet quarterly usually on the first Tuesday in the month. This year our Christmas dinner was a different time as members had so many things on in December.

President, Secretary and Treasurer are unchanged, me as president, Marj Flaherty as Secretary for over 40 years and our Treasurer Colin Speirs.

Garth.



Nola Kinder, Briony Mainwaring & her son.



Geoff & Lyn Angus, Alex Jurga and Trish Tonkin.



Rita & Charlie Burgess, Colin & Marianne Speirs



Neil Hookey & Meg, Garth Whitchurch & Carol and Marianne Speirs on right.



Alan & Marj Flaherty, Nola Kinder

Melbourne Nor-westers 22 kms northwest of Melbourne

Recent Melbourne NorWesters Christmas lunch reported on Facebook.



Melbourne Sou-westers 270 kms southwest of Melbourne

Sunraysia 546 kms northwest of Melbourne

Sunraysia have held a Christmas function, but no pictures taken and no report.

Queensland

Caloundra

103 kms north of Brisbane

The September meeting was quite a special day, hosting the National President Mark Tramby and his lovely wife Rosemary. A bit of fun with several members receiving OBEs (Over Bloody Eighty) congrats to Dave Oakes, John Pascoe, Lindsay Canobie and Laurie Jackson, hope there's many more.



Caloundra Apex 40 had a picnic in the park at Currimundi Lake 23rd November. Arrangements have been made for their Christmas party at Raintree Bvd. Little Mountain on the 8th December. It will be another picnic with all the bells and whistles thrown in.



Curtis Coast

530 kms north of Brisbane



Photos recently posted on Facebook without any captions.

Gold Coast

80 kms south of Brisbane

Their August lunch was cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

The Christmas luncheon was a resounding success. I appreciate everyone attendance especially our special guests - Bill and Val Cramp (editor of Roaring 40s Newsletter, Sue Skinner from Redlands, Jan Heap from Rotary, Karen Lamberton (Southport Apex) who today joined Apex 40.

It was significant that we had the restaurant to ourselves, and we were able to honour our own Trevor Morris (previously Burleigh Heads Apex) for whom the 'Trevor Morris Award' was created. 'Fierce' was not a word I would use in the competition for the Award but the inaugural winner, by acclamation, is Michelle Thompson. Michelle now has the honour of holding the Award until our February luncheon (anticipated to be Café 63 at the Ross Evans Garden Centre).

My sincere condolences to Noel and Sharon Craig who couldn't find the restaurant and apparently, spent an hour driving around without success.

I specifically wish to acknowledge and thank my Treasurer Ken, his wife Jan and my wife Lynn, for the tireless effort that they contribute. It is through Ken and Jan that we have 'bounteous' raffles and Ken is an expert in the collection and accounting of the monies. I couldn't ask for a better or better looking (Ken excepted) team.



Hervey Bay

290 kms north of Brisbane

Maryborough

290 kms north of Brisbane

Redlands

35 kms south of Brisbane

Thirty six members enjoyed a 2 course Christmas themed lunch at the Redland Museum. Another 2 were recovering in hospital. A fines session provided extra entertainment. During 2022 Redlands reached the historical milestone of 200 meetings. The event was celebrated with lunch at the Courthouse Restaurant, Cleveland and welcomed National President, Mark and his wife, Rosemary together with National Secretary Col and his wife, Phyl. Quite a lot of memorabilia was on display and we were reminded of some of the early activities by Billie Hegarty, wife of our recently departed member, Geoff. Geoff had been a long serving treasurer and one of the "characters" of the group.

Previously the AGM was held at one of the Benfer family homes on a wet and windy weekend in October. President Sue Skinner began the day in Tasmania and arrived in time to attend at midday. Leadership team remains the same for another year, but all members are charged with assisting organise functions.



Albert and Alison Benfer hosts for the AGM



President Sue with her annual report.



Zone 6 President Jim Ellison from the 1970's visiting

Wynnum Manly 20 kms east of Brisbane

Our final meeting for the year was held at the Redlands RSL, with 24 of our members in attendance. We would like to thank National President Mark Tramby & his wife Rosemary, and Roaring 40's editor Bill Cramp with his wife Val for joining us on this occasion.

Merry Christmas to all Apex 40's members, and we look forward to another great year in 2023.



XEPA Great South East

30 kms south east of Brisbane

XEPA Christmas celebration and AGM meeting at Elysium Restaurant & Bar in Victoria Point. Visitor Pam Swayn was made welcome as well as visiting Roaring 40's editor Bill Cramp and his wife. The day happened to be member National President Mark's 2022 birthday. President Col and Roaring 40's editor, Bill celebrated a re-union as ex members of the Springwood. Q. Apex club.



South Australia

Adelaide Hills

35 kms southeast of Adelaide

Tasmania

Devonport

255 kms northwest of Hobart

Our Christmas lunch yesterday was a great success. 24 Members attended at a boutique restaurant at Port Sorell on Tasmania's North West Coast. A general gathering around pre-lunch drinks was very enjoyable leading up to a beautiful Christmas lunch. Because we had the restaurant to ourselves, we were able to present 3 further OBEs to Bruce Richardson, Rob Beveridge and John Cornell. There will be a further 2 presented for Lois Richardson and Mac Addison at the next meeting.

Members were also able to have a full discussion on planning the coming year's events and we have a full calendar confirmed. Interest was expressed in the 2023 Rort in Port Stephens as well as our formal acceptance of the "Bill Cunliffe Memorial Attendance Award".

Ken McKenzie



More Devonport photos.



Launceston

200 kms north of Hobart

Due to various reasons including ill health such as colds and fear of Covid infections our group this year little was smaller than usual. Nevertheless, a pleasant time was had by all. Sunday late morning started with some of us enjoying learning some of the intricacies of lawn bowling. Thanks to the Bridport Bowls Club for the use of their facilities. Prominent members of our club and the Bridport Bowls Club David and Berenice guided us in the bowling. Some even brought their own bowls! It was suggested that I should consider taking up lawn bowls as it is a great social game. I had to advise that I am not yet old enough.

After bowls we retired to the Bridport Hotel for a very pleasant lunch. After lunch, coffee and chocolates were enjoyed at the home of David and Berenice, followed by a noisy and enthusiastic game of cards.

Thankyou David and Berenice, for your hospitality, it was as always, exceptional.

Till next year, all have a safe and enjoyable festive season.

Roger Hart,
President
Launceston



South Africa 2023

After three long years in the wilderness, the vibes of 2023 are very positive, and many are counting the days to a wonderful return and a new experience in South Africa. The South African 41 Clubs are looking forward to welcoming the 2023 mass tour group. They have, as we have, missed the fun and fellowship that all parties had experienced on the previous tours. For too long the Covid 19 Pandemic has thwarted us being together but there may be an exciting light at the end of the tunnel.

The South African 41 Club Tour revolves around the 41 Club Annual Conference (AGM) that is a 4-day event similar to our Annual Rort. In 2023 the AGM will be held in Durban on the east coast of the continent. Tour members from around the world will make their own way to Durban, on or before August 24th and be met by the South African 41 Club hierarchy there. From Durban the tour will continue to East London and attend the AGM. The men have the opportunity to attend the AGM Meeting and the ladies are entertained at selected venues. During the AGM there are many social activities, similar to our Rorts.

The AGM begins on August 31st and finalises on September 3rd. The tour would then explore SA, concentrating on the West Cape, visiting areas that have been missed on the previous tours. The visitors would experience staying in quality hotels, motels and picturesque villas. The tourists will make their own way home from Cape Town Airport on September 13th / 14th. When possible, the tour would be welcomed at functions organized by local 41 Clubs in their impressive venues, possibly every second or third night.

This trip is being organised in conjunction with Apex 40 Australia. IRO Gayl McKay and Alan Bach are working in conjunction with Nico McNamara and the South African 41 Club Committee to finalise exciting expectations for the 2023 Tour.

The previous tours have been incredibly exciting, fun packed and extremely economical. The accommodation, food, wine and fellowship would rate as the near the best that the previous participants have encountered on any holiday.

So far interest has been shown in the 2023 Tour by 41 Club members from the following countries. New Caledonia, New Zealand, India, Europe, Asia and of course, Apex 40 members from Australia.

Bill Hammond, Club 41 New Zealand and regular visitor to our Rorts, reports in October:-



Wow what a day 2 months ago I put my name forward for a position on the Upper hutt city council today I got 5350 votes and polled 4th highest for 10 vacancies. I am so lucky to have the support of my family to make this possible and now it's up to me to do the job justice and make the people that have the faith in me proud. At this stage all I can say is thank you and I will not let you down wow what a day.

Mark Tramby commented:
so from all in Apex 40

Congratulations



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Welcome to our spring newsletter.

Our September face to face board meeting held at the SHACK was an excellent opportunity for the hard working committee to catch up with each other again. There was much discussed and implemented at this meeting. Your Foundation continues to do some great things, and by just reading Apex Australia's latest newsletter (issue 46) posted in July, it shows how the Foundation has been to the fore, assisting Apex Clubs in their community, through providing grants for underprivileged children, further supporting the association and clubs with their mental health initiatives, and supporting organisations to utilise our fantastic facilities at the Magic Castle, the SHACK and the Copper Coast. I would also like to acknowledge the fellowship and support that we receive from Apex 40. Their annual RORT held in Darwin, had our Vice Chairman Jamie furthering our connection.

Their annual RORT held in Darwin, had our Vice Chairman Jamie furthering our connection. Their annual RORT held in Darwin, had our Vice Chairman Jamie furthering our connection.

Their annual RORT held in Darwin, had our Vice Chairman Jamie furthering our connection. Their annual RORT held in Darwin, had our Vice Chairman Jamie furthering our connection. Well done outgoing Apex 40 President, Julie Primmer, and incoming President (also Apex Foundation member), Mark Tramby. Their newsletter 'Roaring 40's' is definitely a great read. Do visit their website – www.apex40.com

In July, Apex Australia changed over their National President, with Adam Stewart (thanks Adam for your commitment to the Apex Foundation) handing over to Simon Grant from the Beaufort Apex Club in Victoria. Huge congratulations, Simon. The Apex Foundation directors are looking forward to your input in our board.

One of our very long-term members, and past Apex Foundation director, Mark Ballin was presented with Life Governorship of Apex Australia at a celebratory 90th (91st) anniversary dinner held in Toowoomba in March.

Mark, who was a National President, has a history unparalleled to anyone else in Apex, and his award is most deserving.

The board congratulates Mark on his huge input into everything Apex over the last 43 years.

Anyway, enjoy the newsletter, keep well, and thanks for your continued support.

Yours in Apex,
Tony Wilshire

Annual Report Chairman Tony Wilshire

We have all seen many changes in how we do business over the past three years. Very happily I can convey to you that it now looks more like business as usual, which means we will be celebrating and deliberating our achievements face-to-face at our 2022 Annual General Meeting.

It is with more positive and relaxed emotions that I write this report conveying to our members, supporters and partners an overview of the activities of the Apex Foundation over the past year. In doing so, I would like to give a huge shoutout to our Board of Directors who have again been a massive support.

Our very first consideration is still *'Improving the lives of children and families and helping Apex Clubs build better communities'*. Our very strong relationship with Apex Australia is of utmost importance to the Board.

MENTAL HEALTH INITIATIVE This year, we continued our partnering with Apex Australia in ‘*The Building Better Mental Health Project*’. The Foundation, particularly Lindsay Carthew, worked closely with Apex Clubs, and we were delighted with the range of their projects presented to us. We understand that the successful clubs’ foresight here made a huge difference to their communities. We also provided some funding to the organisation ‘*Are you Bogged Mate*’ to help them extend the great work they do in helping farming communities with the menace of mental illness. Over \$30K was raised from our members and supporters to assist with this project.

APEX CHARITABLE TRUST Grants totalling \$118K were made to a range of causes during the year, with the Board looking for practical applications rather than research. The causes of melanoma, diabetes, cancer and autism were supported through grants made respectively to Melanoma Patients Australia, Juvenile Diabetes Research, Tour de Cure, Bloomhill Cancer Care, Yurana Children’s Cancer and Aspect. In addition, children’s reading and development was supported through a grant to Raising Literacy. It was great that the Directors were provided a special morning tea by the Aspect School on the Central Coast in April, as a thank you for the lawn mowing equipment we donated, and it was fantastic to see a group of these children experience a trip to the *Magic Castle*. Very importantly, the Apex Foundation has continued our great partnership with the **Children’s Cancer Institute**, this all starting back in the 70’s with the ‘*Help A Kid Make it*’ National Service Scheme. The Board approved a grant amounting to \$50K over the next two years to fund a PhD scholar to work in the institute’s pre-clinical testing team. The recipient is to be known as the APEX Scholar and there will be more press around this very soon.

CIVILIAN WIDOWS TRUSTS Our three Civilian Widows Trusts have provided grants totalling more than \$87K this year, and most of these grant applications were generated through Apex Clubs. Over 120 underprivileged children benefitted here, mainly in relation to their education needs.

FINE ARTS TRUST It was once again great to be able to support (to the tune of \$5K) two very talented young Australians, in their soprano ambitions on the world stage at the Hans Belvedere International Singing Competition in Latvia. The ongoing support the Foundation receives from Sally-Anne Russell is immeasurable.

COMMUNITY FUND During the year the Foundation supported the homeless through Safe Waters Community Care Inc. in the Ulladulla NSW district, for people experiencing homelessness, domestic violence, substance misuse difficulties, poverty, and social isolation

Due to the established need, assistance was provided by way of establishment costs for these Safe Shelter properties, with an initial \$30K grant approved for rewiring and electrical upgrade of the premises, concrete pathway for disability access and timber deck with pergola. It’s great to see the Apex Club of Milton Ulladulla also assisting Safe Waters Community Care Inc. by offering support to the Committee and ongoing work parties.

Our Mission Statement

Improving the lives of children and families and helping Apex Clubs build better communities

The complete report can be viewed at:

https://mcusercontent.com/ff0d7d731ee5df24ef083663d/files/a2c9a1b2-1afd-d9c5-17a0-2a6af2fe52c5/APEX_FOUNDATION_AUSTRALIA_ENEWSLETTER_SPRING_OCTOBER_2022.pdf

PS. The Christmas edition of their newsletter is now online at: -

https://mcusercontent.com/ff0d7d731ee5df24ef083663d/files/274ec7e3-dadb-4efd-89b4-842323554a7a/APEX_FOUNDATION_AUSTRALIA_Final.01.pdf

Apex Australia News

We have no further editions of The Apexian since September to report on.

MEMORIES OF THE GOOD OLD DAYS – WHEN WE WERE NEITHER SURFERS PARADISE APEX CLUB – CLUB NO. 534

No. 3

The Gold Coast, Queensland lacks snow, sleighs and reindeer but it does not lack boats! Santa chose this type of transport for visiting the children of the members of the Surfers Paradise Apex Club on many occasions.



Santa arriving

1981 Children's Christmas Party
Budd's Beach



Santa arrives

1980 Children's Christmas Party



Santa surrounded by children – is
President John waiting for his
present?



Joel Innes getting his gift from Santa



That's a good boy! You deserve a pat on the head

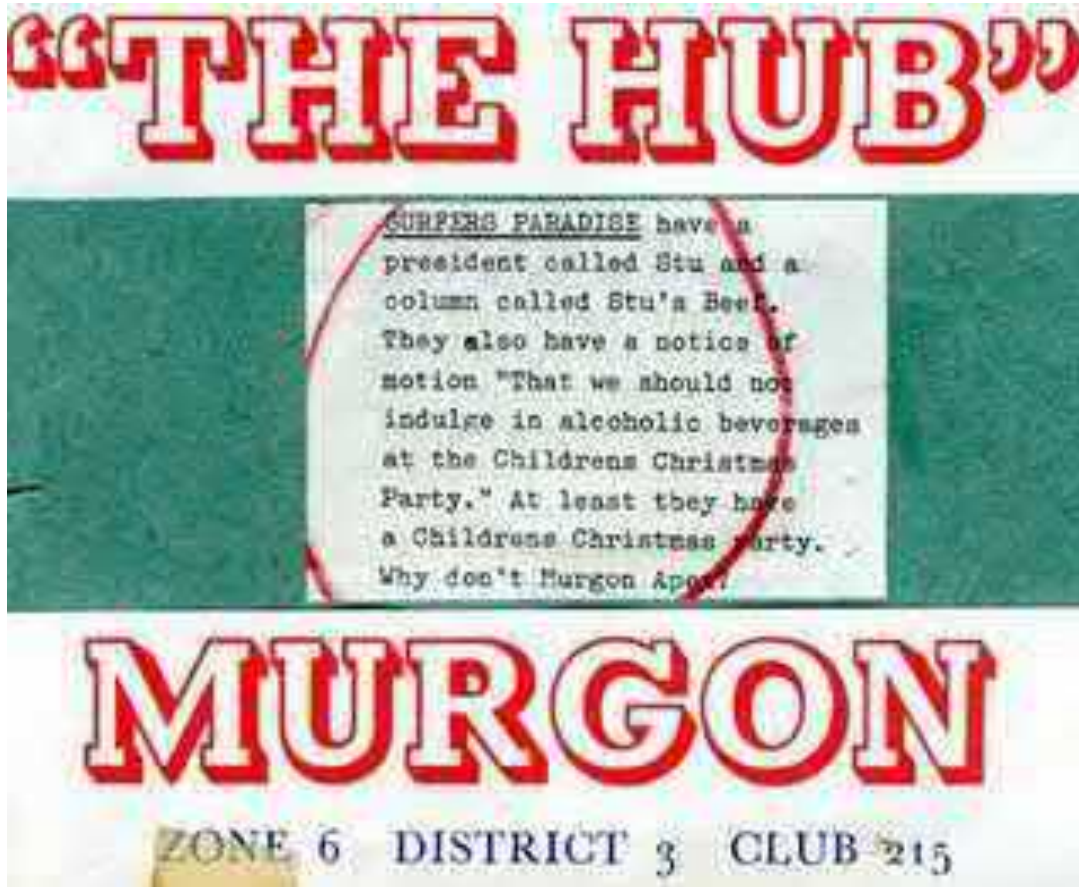


Farewell to Santa



Bye Santa!

POSTSCRIPT:



Neil McPherson, Life Member, Surfers Paradise Apex.



Devices used to find water



Beer can do miracles

The training process was tedious, but now he knows he is not allowed on the couch.



SO I'VE BEEN BARKING FOR 20 MINUTES AND YOU KEEP TELLING ME TO SHUT UP AND YOU KEEP IGNORING ME.....ANYWAY YOUR CAR IS GONE!

You know how they throw the ball into the crowd after they win the game? That's not allowed in bowling. I know that now.

One day you'll find someone that is obsessed with you. It's probably going to be a dog, but it is what it is.



Two of the greatest qualities to have in life are:

PATIENCE and WISDOM



NOW I LAY ME DOWN TO SLEEP. IN SECONDS I'LL HAVE FALLEN DEEP.

MY HUMAN WENT TO TAKE A PEE. AND NOW HER BED BELONGS TO ME. AMEN.



Last night, my wife asked me if I'd seen the dog bowl. I said, "I didn't know he could."

March 2021:
Pretty much the same as March 2020 but now we have toilet paper

Felt uncomfortable driving into the cemetery. The gps blurted out you have reached your final destination.



Keep sending in your pictures, club notices and general stories of interest so they can be shared with the rest of the Apex 40 community through our *Roaring 40's publication*.



WEB: www.apex40.com

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1543334949270004/>
Or search for Apex 40 Australia Inc

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Mark Tramby (Rosemary)

Tel: 0438 465 686

Email: president@apex40.com

NATIONAL SECRETARY

Col Ramsay (Phyl)

PO Box 5204, MANLY. Qld. 4179.

Tel: 0419 253 030

Email: secretary@apex40.com

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND APEX LIASON.

Gayl McKay (David Besson)

Tel: 0407 181 482

Email: iro@apex40.com

MEMBERSHIP

Colin Gifford (Carole)

Tel: 0401 097 322

Email: membership@apex40.com

NATIONAL VICE PRESIDENT& MEMBERSHIP.

Julie Primmer (Philip Sheahan)

Tel: 0417 558 591

Email: vicepresident@apex40.com

NATIONAL TREASURER.

Keith Miller (Racheal)

Tel: 02 4647 3203

Email: treasurer@apex40.com

ROARING 40's EDITOR.

Bill Cramp (Val)

Tel: 0490 461 657

Email: roaring@apex40.com

APEX 40 WEBSITE.

Ken Wright (Janice)

Tel: 02 4735 3037

Email: web@apex40.com

2023 RORT CONTACT.

Robyn Thorley (Allan)

Email: 2023hunter@apex40.com

Name Badge prices have increased after 12 years: \$12.00 Inc. Postage
A limited number of Lapel Pins are \$10) each including postage.

Name Badges and Lapel Pins are available through the National Apex 40 Secretary.

secretary@apex40.com

0419 253 030

